United Nations A/65/799–S/2011/199

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
29 March 2011
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 36
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 25 March 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a complaint concerning Israeli enemy forces who, on 22 March 2011, abducted two Lebanese shepherds from within Lebanese territory (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as an official document of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 36, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

11-28184 (E) 290311 300311

Please recycle

Annex to the identical letters dated 25 March 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The Lebanese Republic

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

At 11.15 a.m. on 22 March 2011, an eight-man Israeli enemy army patrol crossed the Blue Line in the Wadi Qatmun area of southern Lebanon, in the vicinity of Rumaysh, and entered Lebanese territory. There they came upon two Lebanese shepherds, Leon Al-Alam and Muhammad Zahra, who were tending their flocks on the Lebanese side of the Blue Line. Members of the Israeli patrol threatened the two shepherds with their weapons, put them in restraints and forcibly removed them to occupied Palestinian territory. At 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 23 March 2011, they were handed over to the Lebanese Army at Ra's Naqurah through the liaison unit of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). At 1 p.m. on the same day, subsequent to the handover of Lebanese citizens Leon Al-Alam and Muhammad Zahra, a Lebanese Army investigation team, with the help of a UNIFIL team, undertook a field inspection of the area with the two shepherds who had been abducted from that place. Both parties were satisfied that the two shepherds had been abducted from within Lebanese territory

This violation represents a flagrant breach of Lebanese sovereignty, Security Council resolution 1701 (2006), international law and the Charter of the United Nations, and yet again confirms Israel's contempt for international resolutions and its determination to continue to pursue its aggressive and provocative policies and to continually threaten international peace and security. Lebanon has repeatedly complained of the Israeli enemy forces' continual abductions of helpless Lebanese civilians, who are beaten and subjected to mental and physical injury, thereby affirming Israel's determination to pursue a policy of aggression against Lebanon. Lebanon demands that the Security Council should fulfil its responsibilities and take appropriate measures to prevail upon Israel to cease its daily violations of Lebanese sovereignty, abandon its aggressive policy towards Lebanese citizens and withdraw from all Lebanese territory, in accordance with Security Council resolutions 425 (1978) and 1701 (2006).